



I send greetings to Muslims in the United States and around the world as you observe the holy month of Ramadan.

Islam is a peace-loving faith that is practiced by more than one billion people, including millions of American Muslims. These proud citizens contribute to the diversity that makes our country strong, and the United States is grateful for the friendship and support of many Muslim Nations that are vital partners in the global coalition to fight against terrorism.

The Qur'an teaches that Ramadan is a time for fasting, prayer, worship, and contemplation. Muslims observe this month by renewing their dedication to caring for those in need, doing good deeds, and strengthening family and community ties. These actions reflect many of the values that Muslims share with people of other faiths across our Nation and around the world, including courage, compassion, and service.

America remains committed to freedom, justice, and opportunity for all people. During this season of reverence and examination, we continue to work together for a future of peace, tolerance, and understanding.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a blessed time. May you be well during Ramadan and throughout the coming year.

-- President George W. Bush
November 2002

America has to be that model of what is possible -- the universal nation -- a place where people of every background and distinction can live in peace and harmony, the kind of peace and harmony that God meant for all of His children, for the noisy, troubled and often violent world. This is an uplifting concept, one not always easy to translate into reality, especially far from our shores.

--Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State

Program

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:15 p.m. | Arrival of guests |
| 6:19 p.m. | Adhana (Call to Prayer) by Abdushakur Omari |
| | Those fasting break their fast |
| | Magharib prayers to be led by Sheikh Abubakar Zuberi |
| 6:30 p.m. | All guests collect their food from buffet |
| 7:00 p.m. | Remarks by Ambassador Robert V. Royall |
| | Introduction of Panelists |
| | Panel Discussion |
| 8:00 p.m. | Closing Remarks |

Food catered by The Courtyard Hotel.
The American Embassy expresses its gratitude to Sheikh Hassan Chizenga for his counsel in the organization of this Iftar.

This year, several distinguished Tanzanians were invited to the United States to participate in special International Visitor, American Studies, and Reporting Tour Programs that focused on religion in the United States. We have invited some of them to participate in a panel discussion about the insights they gained into the complex nature of American society. Among those who participated in the special programs were:

Sheikh Hassan Chizenga - "Faith Based Initiatives in Fighting HIV/AIDS" - June 17 - July 6

Sauda Simba Kilumanga - "Islam in America" - June 24 - July 13

Hon. Dr. Hussein Mwinyi - "Emerging Muslim Leaders" - July 29 - August 24

Hawa Magongo Mmanga, Zarina Shamte Madabida, & Hamida Hassan Sheikh - "Muslim Women on Governance and Economic Issues" - August 3 - 24

Mgaya Kingoba - "African Journalist's Reporting Tour on Muslim Life in America" - June 22 - July 5

Prof. Saida Yahya-Othman - "Religion in Contemporary America" - September 14 - October 12



AMERICAN EMBASSY
140 MSESE ROAD, KINONDONI DISTRICT, P.O. BOX 9123, DAR ES SALAAM, TEL. 2666010/5, FAX 2666701.
[HTTP://USEMBASSY.STATE.GOV/TANZANIA](http://usembassy.state.gov/tanzania)

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



In Observance of the Holy Month of Ramadhan

Iftar

7 Ramadhan 1423

(12 November 2002)

92 Touré Drive, Oysterbay

